Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, The Law Enforcement Torch Run began in 1981 with Police Chief Richard LaMunyon, Wichita, Kansas, recognizing an urgent need to raise funds for, and increase awareness of, Special Olympics; and,

Whereas, The Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics has become an international event as a series of relays by law enforcement officers to raise money for Special Olympics, and is the movement's largest grassroots fundraiser and public awareness vehicle; and,

Whereas, The Special Olympics Torch has been carried by law enforcement agencies across the state of South Dakota for the past 22 years; and,

Whereas, In 2009, thanks to the involvement of hundreds of law enforcement officers, the Torch Run raised over $276,000 with over 2,000 Special Olympians competing in various athletic events; and,

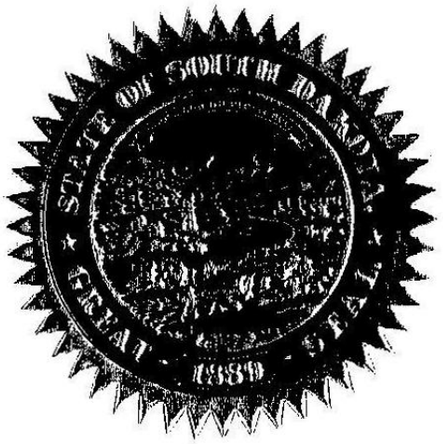
Whereas, The Law Enforcement Torch Run will be a part of this year's Special Olympics with a kick-off event commencing at Spearfish, South Dakota, on May 17 and ending in Sioux Falls on May 20, where opening ceremonies of the Special Olympics Summer Games will take place; and,

Whereas, It is fitting and proper for the Governor to recognize the significance of the contribution the law enforcement officers make to the Special Olympics in South Dakota:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim May 17-20, 2010, as

LAW ENFORCEMENT TORCH RUN WEEK

in South Dakota.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Fifth Day of May in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Ten.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State